

We claim:

1. A video deck which comprises:

a tape drive mechanism for fast-forwarding or fast-rewinding the tape in a loaded video cassette at various transport speeds;

a signal input/output head which records on / reads from the tape, NTSC control signals and prescribed video signals while the tape is being transported by the tape drive mechanism;

a counter which resets the count at the video recording start position and adds to / subtracts from the reset count either the number of control signals for the signal input/output head to record on the tape or the number of control signals for the signal input/output head to detect from the tape, or a combination of these;

a counter display which calculates the time interval corresponding to the count obtained by the counter and displays it in appropriate time units;

an operation panel which allows a user to program a recording schedule; and

a microcomputer which controls tape transport through the tape drive mechanism, input/output of signals by the signal input/output head, counting of control signals by the counter, reading of the counter display, and user programming via the

operation panel; wherein

the microcomputer, when controlling the tape drive mechanism and signal input/output head through the user programming for recording via the operation panel so as to do video tape recording, controls the counter at the video recording start position to be reset, and controls the counter display to count / read the amount of tape transport;

after recording is over, it controls the tape drive mechanism to fast-rewind until the count is "29" or less, and controls the tape drive mechanism to give an instruction to stop the fast-rewinding;

after the tape stops running, it controls the tape drive mechanism to fast-forward until the signal input/output head reads a control signal three times and also the counter display shows that the time to reach the video recording start position is 1 sec. or less, and then instructs the tape drive mechanism to stop fast-forwarding, to thereby offset the tape overrun caused by fast-rewinding.

2. A video deck which measures the tape position according to prescribed positioning signals and reads increase or decrease on the counter display in units which are different from the measuring units used for the positioning signals, to thereby search the target stop position, comprising:

a variable speed tape transport means for fast-forwarding or fast-rewinding the tape at various speeds; and

a tape transport control means which controls the variable speed tape transport means to quickly run the video tape and also to give an instruction to stop the high speed tape transport when the counter display reads the same value as in the target stop position but the tape position as indicated by said positioning signals is short of the target stop position.

3. The video deck according to Claim 2, further comprising:

a control signal recording means for recording control signals on a tape;

a control signal detection means for detecting the control signals recorded on the tape while the tape is being transported by the variable speed tape transport means;

a counting means which resets the count at a target stop position and adds to / subtracts from the reset count either the number of control signals for the control signal recording means to record on the tape or the number of control signals for the control signal detection means to detect from the tape, or a combination of these; and

a counter display means which calculates the tape transport time interval corresponding to the count obtained by the counting means and displays it in appropriate time units.

1. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 1998, 93, 1023-1032.

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7. The video deck according to Claim 3, wherein when the control signal detection means detects the prescribed number of control signals and the counter display shows that the time required to reach the target stop position becomes a prescribed time interval or less, the tape transport control means controls the variable speed tape transport means to stop reverse motion, the reverse motion defining offset of the difference between the tape stop position after an instruction to stop high speed tape transport is given and target stop position.

8. A method for controlling a video deck which can fast-forward or fast-rewind a video tape at various speeds, to measure the tape position according to prescribed positioning signals and read increase or decrease on the counter display in units which are different from the measuring units used for the positioning signals, to thereby search the target stop position, comprising the steps of:

allowing the variable speed tape transport means to quickly run the video tape;

giving an instruction to stop the high speed tape transport when the counter display reads the same value as in the target stop position but the tape position as indicated by said positioning signals is short of the target stop position.

9. A medium which stores a video deck control program for controlling a video deck able to fast-forward or fast-rewind a video tape at various speeds, to measure the tape position according to prescribed positioning signals and read increase or decrease on the counter display in units which are different from the measuring units used for the positioning signals, to thereby search the target stop position,

wherein the program allows the variable speed tape transport means to quickly run the video tape; and

gives an instruction to stop the high speed tape transport when the counter display reads the same value as in the target stop position but the tape position as indicated by said positioning signals is short of the target stop position.

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